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*Admitted only in Maryland
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Federal Agencies

December 14, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Mail Stop: Amendment

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 09/547,791; Filed: April 12, 2000
For: **System, Method, and Computer Program Product for Weather and
Terrestrial Vegetation-Based Water Renovation and Management
Forecasting**

Inventors: Beck *et al.*
Our Ref: 1481.0170000/PEG/TAD

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
2. Return postcard.

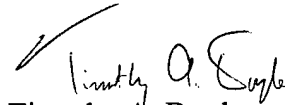
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
December 14, 2004
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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TAD/slw
Enclosures

344088_1.DOC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Beck *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/547,791

Filed: April 12, 2000

For: **System, Method, and Computer
Program Product for Weather and
Terrestrial Vegetation-Based Water
Renovation and Management
Forecasting**

Confirmation No.: 5403

Art Unit: 3623

Examiner: Eric T. Shaffer

Atty. Docket: 1481.0170000

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated September 15, 2004, (PTO Prosecution File Wrapper Paper No. 13), Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks.

This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.